

LIST OF ATTORNEYS

In the Consular District of Colombo

(Updated on December 1, 2011)

The Consular District of Colombo is comprised of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon) and the Republic of Maldives. In providing this listing the American Embassy at Colombo assumes no responsibility for the professional ability or integrity of the persons or firms whose names appear in the list given below. The firms listed are arranged alphabetically and the order in which they appear has no other significance. Free legal aid is also available.

In compiling this list the Embassy has accepted recommendations, as well as seeking out attorneys through direct contact, and the names are subsequently referred to the Sri Lankan Bar Association to see if they are in good standing. If so, the names are included in the list without further research.

Although the Embassy has used care in compiling this list, we cannot guarantee or otherwise assume responsibility for the professional competence or integrity of the persons or individuals whose names are listed. In this connection, the Embassy would appreciate receiving your comments, favorable, as well as unfavorable concerning the performance of the attorney that you choose. Such comments will assist the Embassy in the annual review of the list and your fellow American citizens as well. We also wish to point out that many reputable lawyers have chosen not to be included on this list; consequently, no negative connotation can be drawn from the absence of a name from the list. If you have chosen a Sri Lankan attorney whose name is not on the list, the Embassy will upon request, verify whether the attorney is licensed by the Sri Lankan Bar Association, and has no substantiated complaints registered with the Embassy by former clients. The Embassy is precluded by the Privacy Act from releasing such information which pertains to attorneys who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States.

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Geographic Base: Colombo – Colombo District

GAMINI PERERA, MBASL; MIPBA; MABA

Attorney- at Law, Notary Public, Commissioner for Oaths and Company Secretary, Recognized Foreign Lawyer in the United Kingdom.

Senior Counsel called to the Bar in 1993 and a Senior Legal Consultant in Sri Lanka. The law chamber is assisted by Junior Counsels, Instructing Attorneys and experts in various Professional areas.

Life Member	- Bar Association of Sri Lanka	- (BASL)
Life Member	- Colombo Law Society	- (CLS)
Member	- Inter - Pacific Bar Association	- (IPBA)
Member	- American Bar Association	- (ABA)
Recognized Foreign Lawyer	- Solicitors Regulation Authority	- (SRA)

Colombo City Chambers: 34 –1 / 7
Lawyers' Office Complex
Colombo 12
CO 10012
Sri Lanka.

Outer City Chambers: No.302/54
Victory Gardens
Hokandara
CO 10118
Sri Lanka

UK Chambers: No.20
Badgers Croft
Chesterton
Newcastle-under-Lyme
Staffordshire
ST5 7AT
UNITED KINGDOM

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+44(0)790- 4321395 (UK)

Geographical Area of Practice : Whole Island

Professional Areas of Practice:

BOI and other Project Proposal and approval, Company Formation, Documentation of Local and International Trade Contract; Marketing Contracts, Agreements, MOU. Trade Mark

Representation for clearance from various Government and Provincial Government Organization such as:

Airport and Aviation Authority, Board of Investment of Sri Lanka, Central Environmental Authority, Ministry of Internal Security and Law and Order, Ministry of Finance, Urban Development Authority, relevant Local Government Bodies, Registrar of Companies, Ministry of Social Services and Welfare, Ministry of Tourism. Etc.

Civil matters.

All litigation matters including Adoption, Child custody, Civil Damages, Injunction orders, Marriage/ Maintenance / Divorce, Foreign/Local Investments, Auto Accident, Estates, Debt/Money recoveries and others on request

Criminal Matters

Handle all criminal matters including Representation to Attorney General's Department, Criminal Investigation Department, Department of Customs, Fraud Bureau, and Immigration & Emigration Department, Police and Prison Dept. and others on request

Human Rights (Fundamental Rights)

Labor Relations

Representations before Labor Tribunal, Industrial Court, Commissioner of Labour, and Employment Trust Fund and Employment Provident Fund

Immigration Consultant

Consultation on various Visa issues within Sri Lanka and overseas, Preparation of Visa appeals and representation to British High Commission & UKBA Posts.

JOHN WILSON PARTNERS

Attorneys-at-Law & Notaries Public, Industrial Design, Patent and Trademark Attorneys, Domain Name Registration Agents, Foreign Investment Consultants

Address : 365 Dam Street, Colombo 12, Sri Lanka
Tel : +94-11-232-4579, +94-11-244-8931, +94-11-232-1652
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Email : advice@srilankalaw.com
Web : <http://www.srilankalaw.com>

Geographic Area of Practice : Colombo and outstation areas.

Areas of Legal Practice:

Admiralty and shipping matters; administrative law and writ matters; adoptions; agency, distribution, franchise and representation agreements; aviation law and regulation; banking and finance; capital markets; civil litigation, dispute resolution, arbitration and debt recoveries; company law and practice and company secretarial services; competition and trade; construction law; conveyancing, notarial work and real estate; corporate and commercial law; branch and liaison offices; family law including divorces and matrimonial matters, custody matters, trusts and international child abduction (Hague Convention) matters; general counsel and advice; foreign investment and Board of Investment of Sri Lanka matters; immigration matters, residence and work visas and permits; intellectual property (industrial property - trademarks, patents, industrial designs and copyright); legal aspects of ICT (information communication technology), broadcasting and legal aspects of e-commerce; joint ventures; labor law and industrial disputes; legal consultancy, legal opinions and legal due diligence reports; personal injury claims; powers of attorney; private client work; privatization; probate and trust; project finance; regulatory affairs and matters including proceedings and applications to all government bodies, authorities and ministries including the Department of Inland Revenue, Department of Excise, Department of Immigration and Emigration and Sri Lanka Customs; service of process and court documentation; sworn translation services; taxation.

General Information : JOHN WILSON PARTNERS, Attorneys-at-Law & Notaries Public was established in around 1920 by the late Senator John Wilson.

The firm is currently managed by his grandson John Wilson. John Wilson has also, since 2010, functioned as In House Legal Adviser/Counsel at The European Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka.

The firm harnesses modern technology to provide a very responsive service to clients. The use of IT processes is particularly important in the firm's IP practice division which operates with in-house

custom developed docketing software enabling the efficient handling of thousands of trademark registrations and related actions for domestic and international clients from all across the globe.

Our mission is to provide relevant responsive and practical legal advice, to offer solutions and to help clients overcome their legal problems and issues.

The firm acts for a number of diplomatic missions notably:

- Official Lawyer of the Swiss Embassy, Colombo.
- Legal Adviser to the Canadian High Commission, Colombo.
- Avocat Conseil of the French Embassy, Colombo.
- Trusted lawyer of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Colombo.

The firm has also advised various embassies including the Australian High Commission, the Canadian High Commission and the French Embassy in regard to labour law matters and has recently advised the Embassy of the Netherlands in regard to various matters.

A significant amount of the firm's time is spent handling large corporate matters including legal due diligence exercise and the negotiation of share purchase agreements. The firm also assists numerous foreign enterprises wishing to invest in Sri Lanka to obtain all necessary approvals including Board of Investment of Sri Lanka approvals and provides company incorporation and company secretarial services. The firm also litigates for its clients to recover debts and a significant amount of its litigation portfolio consists of applications to register and enforce foreign judgments and arbitral awards.

At JOHN WILSON PARTNERS, every Attorney-at-Law is a Notary Public and the firm regularly advises clients in regard to verification of title matters. The firm enjoys a large client base of high net worth individuals who seek specialist tax and other advice to structure their acquisitions of real estate in Sri Lanka in a tax efficient manner.

John Wilson has expertise in all areas of Sri Lankan civil law and has authored on a wide variety of subjects and contributed to numerous publications.

PRO BONO WORK

The firm undertakes matters *pro bono*. Following the 2004 tsunami, the firm was actively involved in drafting trust deeds and advising in regard to legal issues in connection with post tsunami reconstruction. In 2011, the firm completed *pro bono* litigation in the Supreme Court on behalf of a mother seeking an order for the return of her child abducted from his home country and brought to Sri Lanka in Hague Convention related proceedings in terms of the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction Act no. 10 of 2001. These efforts culminated in a landmark judgment and the return of the child to his country of habitual residence. The firm has also advised Oxfam on a *pro bono* basis in regard to certain of its activities in Sri Lanka.

JULIUS & CREASY, Attorneys-at-Law & Notaries Public **(Estd.1879)**

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Website : www.juliusandcreasy.com

Julius & Creasy, established in 1879 by two British Solicitors, is one of the oldest and largest Law Firms in Sri Lanka and is involved in every facet of civil practice.

The Firm enjoys the largest Intellectual Property practice in the country with many multinationals conducting their patent, industrial design and trademark activities through the Firm.

In the areas of Corporate and Commercial Law, the Firm provides legal services in all company related matters including, Taxation, Insurance, Banking, Restructuring, Mergers and Acquisitions, Due Diligence, Derivatives Transactions, Listing and De-listing, Securities, Anti-Money Laundering, Securitization, Aircraft Leasing, Telecommunications, IT and Infrastructure Projects.

The Firm's areas of legal practice also include Constitutional and Administrative law, Maritime and Shipping Law, Conveyancing and Real Estate Transactions, Industrial Law, Dispute Resolution, Probate and Litigation.

In addition to providing legal services the Firm also has several services arms that provide Company Secretarial, Payroll processing, Visa and Advisory services.

The Firm has as excellent reputation for providing sound advice and devising innovative solutions to legal and commercial issues within a changing legal and business environment to both local and international clients, and has a wealth of experience in dealing with major international assignments. With its strong reputation in the international legal community the Firm maintains close working relationships with many prestigious international Law Firms such as Clifford Chance, Allen & Overy, Banker & McKenzie, Norton Rose, Linklaters, Denton Wilde-Spate and Freshfields.

Julius & Creasy has 18 Partners – namely: J.M.Swamination, S.A.Cader, Ms.A.I.Wanigasekera, T.G.Gooneratne, Ms.J.Kumaraguru, Ms.M.D.L.Karunaratne, Ms.A.M.Fernando, Ms.A.K.Gunawardhana, Ms.M.R.P.Balendra, Ms.M.T.C.Fernando, M.J.B.Adihetty, Ms.S.David, J.L.M.Abeysekera, Ms.N.C.Ediriweera, Ms.P.Sivagananathan & Ms.S.M.A.Nonis, T.D.W.R.Wimalagunaratne, Ms.E.S.Gunawardana, Ms.P.D.Rodrigo. Several of the Firm's Partners and Associates are members of the Bar of England & Wales and New York.

Mr. J.M Swaminathan
Senior Partner

Mr.J.M.Swaminathan LLB (Ceylon), LLM Phill (Colombo). Attorney-at-Law, is the Precedent Partner of Messrs. Julius & Creasy and is a member of the Company Law Advisory Commission, a member of the Intellectual Property Law Commission and the Council of Legal Education. He is also a member of the Law Commission of Sri Lanka. He is a Faculty Member of the Faculty of Law of the University of Colombo and a member of the Legal Cluster of National Economic Commission. He is a Visiting Lecturer and an Examiner at the Faculty of Law University of Colombo. He is also a Faculty member of the LLM Wales Course conducted by the Sri Lanka Law College and a Faculty Member of Post Attorneys Diploma program on Intellectual Property Law and the Course Director of Post Attorneys Diploma program in International Trade Law conducted by the Sri Lanka Law College and is over 45 years in practice. He is also a Director of several listed and unlisted companies.

NEVILLE ABEYRATNE

Attorney- at- Law,

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: abeyratneneville@yahoo.com

Geographic Are of Practice

: Colombo and Outstations.

Areas of Legal Practice:

Criminal and Civil matters ,Immigration matters, adoptions, child custody, marriage and divorce ,Criminal prosecution in intellectual Property Law, Motor accident cases, Fraud ,Theft and similar Criminal offences, Title clearance in Purchase of Property, and Arbitration matters.

General Information:

Counsel in active practice since 1984 and legal consultant to many leading companies and Local Government Authorities. The Law chamber is assisted by junior counsels who are qualified LLB and LLM Degree holders in French Language obtained from Paris, Sorbonne University.

MATHER & RAMANATHAN:

Attorneys-at-Law & Notaries Public

Address : # 136, Hulftsdorp Street, Colombo – 12, Sri – Lanka.
Tel : +94-112-590562, +94-112-599041
Email : sd_yogendra@yahoo.com

Geographical Areas
of Practice : Colombo and outstation

Areas of Legal Practice:

Adoptions, child custody, civil damages, estates, government relations, marriage/divorce, taxes, aeronautical/maritime, banking/financial, collections, contracts, corporations, foreign investment, insurance, investment in raw materials, labor relations, marketing agreements, mining/petroleum, patents/trademarks/copyrights, auto accidents, immigration, narcotics, theft/fraud/embezzlement/.Provides the services of a certified translator, court reporter/stenographer or notary. Handles criminal cases.

All areas of Commercial Law including Banking, Intellectual Property, Investments, Joint Ventures, Telecommunications and IT, Securities/ Tax/ Insurance, Infrastructure Projects, Mergers and Acquisitions, Project Finance, Real Estate, Litigation-Arbitration, Corporate and Employment. Criminal Appeals – Administrative Law & Constitutional Law Extradition – Investment Law. Admiralty and shipping matters, dispute resolution, arbitration and debt recoveries, company Law and practice and company secretarial services.

General Information :

Founded nearly 75 years back, Mather & Ramanathan is one of the oldest Law Firms in Sri Lanka. Proprietor Storer.D.Yogendra. Represents U.S Law Firms / companies, arbitrations.

S.S. SAHABANDU

President's Counsel

Address : No. 19, Charlmont Place, Wellawatte, Colombo - 06

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e mail : sasi@sltnet.lk

Geographic Area of

Practice : Colombo and All Island

Areas of Legal Practice:

Criminal and Civil matters, arbitration (local and international), extradition, human rights (fundamental rights), labor relations, writ petition in the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court, representations for clearance from Government institutions and provincial government institutions, BOI projects and auto accidents.

General Information :

Representations to Government institutions, Cabinet Ministers, Attorney General's Department, Criminal Investigations Department, Debt Recovery, International Law.

Sudath Perera Associates

Address : No 5, 9th Lane, Nawala Road, Nawala, Rajagiriya
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sudath@sudathpereraassociates.com

Geographic Area of Practice:

Colombo and all the other jurisdictions of Sri-Lanka(Commercial High Courts, High Courts, District Courts, Magistrate Courts, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court, Labor Tribunals, Arbitration Tribunals and Admiralty Courts).

Area of Legal Practice:

Arbitration and Dispute Resolution, Intellectual Property, Brand Protection and Anti-Counterfeiting, Real Estate and Construction, Banking and Finance, Capital Markets, Corporate and Commercial, Mergers and Acquisitions, Foreign Investment, Shipping and Aviation, Employment, Projects and Energy, Tax, Private Client Wills and Probate, IT Telecommunications and Media, Criminal Litigation, Civil and Family Law.

General Information:

Sudath Perera, the Managing Partner and an Attorney at Law since 1991, is founder of the firm in July 2002. There are 10 other Partners who work in their specialized divisions, but knowledge and expertise is shared between divisions as and when necessary, to enable the Firm to provide an integrated and responsive service to meet the specific needs of its clients.

Several partners of the Firm are members of the professional organizations including the International Bar Association (IBA), Inter-Pacific Bar Association, International Trademark Attorneys Association (INTA), International Association of Outsourcing Professionals (IAOP), American Chamber of Commerce Sri Lanka, Asian Patent Attorneys Association (APAA), Association of Corporate Lawyers Sri Lanka, Bar Association of Sri Lanka (BASL), and the Council for Business with Britain (CBB).

The firm is known for its energetic and enterprising legal practice, and superior, personalized customer service, and is today a forerunner in the legal field. The firm has an impressive client base- consisting of local companies, multi-nationals (Fonterra, Coats, Toyota, HSBC, Deutsche Bank, Reckitt Benckiser) as well as many foreign firms. Whilst the firm excels in all areas of operation, the growing strength of the firm in recent times has been Intellectual Property, Brand Protection, Anti-counterfeiting and Anti-Piracy practice, with clients including Nike, Polo by Ralph Lauren, Victoria Secret, Colombia Sportswear Co., LVMH Group, Red Bull, Abercrombie & Fitch NIKE, Lacoste, Air Liquide and Business Software Alliance including its members Microsoft, Adobe and Autodesk.

UPALI A. GOONERATNE

President's Counsel (Sri Lanka),
Formerly-Advocate (Sri Lanka),
Barrister and Solicitor (Victoria, NSW & Tasmania),
Solicitor (England and Wales)

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Email : upaliag@yahoo.com
upalig@sltnet.lk

Geographic Area of Practice: Throughout Sri Lanka

Areas of Legal Practice:

General with specialisation in Criminal, Family Law, Immigration, Extradition, Labour etc

General Information:

(Re: Self) In active practice since 1972: Formerly Secretary-General, Asian Legal Research Institute, Japan, Ex-Deputy Secretary-General, International Bar Association (IBA), Ex-Executive Council Member LAWASIA (Law Association for Asia and Pacific), Ex-Secretary, Ex-Vice President and Ex-President, Bar Association of Sri Lanka.

International Trial Observer, including at the trial of Anwar Ibrahim (ex-Deputy PM) in Malaysia, for LAWASIA

Formerly, Lecturer & Examiner in Criminal Law, now Hony.Chairman, Board of Examiners, and Member, Board of Studies, Sri Lanka Law College.

(Re: Professional Practice) Clientele handled includes, foreign Embassies in Sri Lanka, their citizens and businesses, the State institutions, Professional bodies, Multinational enterprises, individuals etc.

Godfrey Cooray Associates

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Mobile : +94-77-2-920350
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Web Address : www.godfreycoorayassociates.lk
Geographical Area of Practice : All Island –

Areas of Legal Practices : All areas of civil law including Adoption, Child Custody, Civil Damages, Injunction Orders, Auto Accident, Maintenance, Divorce, Estate, Debt and Money Recoveries and others on request

Handle all criminal matters in Magistrate and High Courts specially Immigration & Emigration matters, Representations to Attorney Generals' Departments and Police Department.

Handle all matters in the Labour Tribunals and representations are made to Commissioner of Labour

General Information : **The only law firm in the Judicial Zone of Negombo.**

Godfrey Cooray Associates has an excellent reputation on providing advice in criminal, civil and commercial matters.

Geographic Base: Anuradhapura – North Central Province

R. C. K. Rajakaruna

Name : Ranith Chandra Kumara Rajakaruna
Office address : No.4, Lawyers Office Complex, Court Site, Anuradhapura
Office Telephone : +94-25-223-6395
Mobile : +94-77-377-1474
E-mail : rckrajaakaruna@gmail.com
Geographical Area of Practice : Anuradhapura District

Areas of Legal Practices: Family law, Adoptions, Parental Child Abduction, Marriage/Divorce, Banking/Financial, Patents/Trademarks/Copyrights, Civil Law, Criminal Law, Damages, Narcotics, Commercial Law, Contracts and Auto-Accidents.

General Information : Legal practice of 26 years.

Karunaratne Herath

Name : Karunarathne Herath
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Residence : No. 741/13, Stage II, New Town, Anuradhapura
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Residence phone : +94-25-222-2870
Geographical Area of Practice : Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa Districts

Areas of Legal Practices : Criminal Law, Civil Law, Administrative Law, Family Law, Labor Law, Notary Public.

General Information : Attorney at Law and Notary Public. Karunarathne Herath was called to the bar in 1980 and hold life membership in the Bar Association of Sri Lanka.

Geographic Base: Galle – Southern Province

Thushara De Silva Associates

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E-mail : thusharalaw@gmail.com
Geographical Area of Practice : Southern Province

Areas of Legal Practices: Family law, Adoptions, Child Custody, Marriage/Divorce, Banking/Financial, Commercial/Business Law, Foreign Investments, Marketing Agreements, Patents/Trademarks/Copyrights, Civil Law, Criminal Law, Damages, Narcotics, Commercial Law, Contracts, Estates, Labor Relations and Auto-Accidents.

General Information : Legal practice of 12 years.